

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims:

1. (Currently amended): A method for determining whether to initiate a multicast service from a first base station of a first cell, the method comprising:  
receiving a user message transmitted by user equipment positioned in a second cell, wherein the first cell is a neighbour of the second cell, and wherein the user message includes a list of at least one neighbouring cell ~~one or more neighbouring cells~~; and  
in response to the user message, initiating the multicast service in the first cell, wherein the first cell is listed in the list of at least one neighbouring cell ~~one or more neighbouring cells~~ and the selection of the first cell to initiate the multicast service is not by the user equipment.
2. (Original): The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
transmitting, in the second cell from a second base station, a network message to request the user equipment positioned in the second cell to provide neighbouring cell information;  
wherein the user message is in response to the network message.
3. (Currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the list of the at least one neighbouring cell ~~one or more neighbouring cells~~ is a list of neighbouring cells the user equipment could use for combining if the multicast service is initiated in the listed neighbouring cell.
4. (Currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the list of the at least one neighbouring cell ~~one or more neighbouring cells~~ indicates base stations that the user equipment could use for combining if the multicast service is transmitted by the indicated base station.
5. (Currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the list of the at least one neighbouring cell ~~one or more neighbouring cells~~ indicates base stations that the user equipment could use for combining.

6. (Currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the list of the at least one neighbouring cell ~~one or more neighbouring cells~~ indicates base stations having transmissions that the user equipment is able to demodulate.

7. (Currently amended): The method of claim 19, wherein the list of the at least one neighbouring cell ~~one or more neighbouring cells~~ indicates base stations having transmissions that the user equipment is able to demodulate.

8. (Currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the list of the at least one neighbouring cell ~~one or more neighbouring cells~~ indicates base stations having transmissions that the user equipment is able to detect.

9. (Currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the user message further includes a signal measurement for each cell in the list of the at least one neighbouring cell ~~one or more neighbouring cells~~.

10. (Currently amended): The method of claim 9, wherein the signal measurement is indicative of at least one ~~one or more~~ of a signal quality, an error rate, a received signal power level, or a signal-to-noise ratio.

11. (Original): The method of claim 9, wherein the signal measurement is indicative of a beacon signal power.

12. (Original): The method of claim 9, wherein the signal measurement is indicative of a pilot signal power.

13. (Original): The method of claim 9, wherein the signal measurement is indicative of signal power of an existing multicast transmission.

14. (Previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting from a second base station in the second cell, an initial message to indicate to the user equipment a list of cells that are neighbours to the second cell.

15. (Previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting from a second base station in the second cell, an initial message to wake the user equipment positioned in the second cell from an idle mode.

16. (Original): The method of claim 15, wherein the initial message is a page notification message including a set of indicators corresponding to a respective set of multicast services, and wherein each of the indicators indicates whether the second base station is transmitting an updated multicast control channel message.

17. (Original): The method of claim 2, wherein the network message includes a cause value that indicates an enhanced counting procedure is invoked for the multicast service.

18. (Previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising allowing the user equipment to join the multicast service.

19. (Currently amended): A method for determining whether to initiate a multicast service in a group of cells in a network, the method comprising:

receiving ~~one or more user messages~~ at least one user message transmitted by a respective ~~one or more~~ at least one user equipment positioned in the group of cells in the network, wherein ~~each one or more user messages~~ the at least one user message includes a list of at least one neighbouring cell ~~one or more neighbouring cells~~ and a request for multicast service; and

for each cell of the group of cells, accumulating a first count of the user messages having the cell included in the list of the at least one neighbouring cell ~~one or more neighbouring cells~~;

for each cell of the group of cells, initiating the multicast service in the cell if the first count for the cell is not zero;

for each cell of the group of cells, accumulating a second count of the user messages received from user equipment in the cell; and

initiating the multicast service in a cell if the second count for the cell is not zero.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously presented): The method of claim 19, wherein initiating the multicast service in a cell if the second counter for the cell is not zero includes:

initiating a point-to-point multicast service in the cell if a sum of the first count and second count is less than a threshold number; and

initiating a point-to-multipoint multicast service in the cell if the sum of the first count and second count is greater than the threshold number.

22. (Previously presented): The method of claim 19, wherein initiating the multicast service in a cell if the first count for the cell is not zero includes:

initiating a point-to-point multicast service in the cell if the first count is less than a threshold number; and

initiating a point-to-multipoint multicast service in the cell if the first count is greater than the threshold number.

23. (Original): A method to assist in determining whether to initiate a multicast service within a mobile radio network, wherein user equipment is positioned in a first cell of a first base station having a group of neighbouring cells, the method comprising:

determining, for each neighbouring cell in the group of neighbouring cells, whether the user equipment can detect the neighbouring cell;

generating a user message indicating which of the neighbouring cells the user equipment can detect;

transmitting the user message; and

receiving a network message generated responsive to the user message, wherein the network message indicates a new transmission of the multicast service by a second base station in a second cell; wherein the second cell is indicated in the user message.

24. (Original): The method of claim 23, further comprising:

receiving a first signal from the first base station transmitting the multicast service;

receiving a second signal from the second base station transmitting the multicast service;  
and

combining the first and second signals.

25. (Previously presented): The method of claim 23, wherein a base station transmission that the user equipment can detect is combined if the multicast service is enabled on the base station.

26. (Canceled):

27. (Previously presented): The method of claim 23, further includes:  
determining a signal measurement for each of the neighbouring cells;  
wherein the user message further includes the signal measurement for each of the neighbouring cells.

28. (Previously presented): The method of claim 23, further includes:  
determining a signal measurement for each of the neighbouring cells that are detected;  
wherein the user message further includes the signal measurement for each of the neighbouring cells that are detected.

29. (Original): The method of claim 28, wherein the signal measurement is indicative of a received beacon signal power.

30. (Original): The method of claim 28, wherein the signal measurement is indicative of a received pilot signal power.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Previously presented): A method of signalling between user equipment and a network across an air interface, wherein the user equipment is positioned in a first cell created by a first base station, wherein a set of neighbouring base stations create a respective set of neighbouring

cells, and wherein the first base station transmits on a downlink and the user equipment transmits on an uplink, the method comprising:

signalling, on the downlink, a first list of all neighbours of the first base station;  
signalling, on the downlink, an initiation of a counting procedure for a multicast service;

and

signalling, on the uplink, a second list including an indication of acceptable cells from the first list.

34. (Original): The method of claim 33, further comprising signalling, on the uplink, a third list including a signal measurement for each of the acceptable cells from the second list.

35. (Currently amended): A method of requesting a multicast service by user equipment in a first cell, wherein the first cell created by a first base station, and wherein the first base station has a group of neighbouring cells created by a respective group of neighbouring base stations, the method comprising:

determining, for at least one ~~one or more~~ of the neighbouring cells, whether a signal from the respective neighbouring base station is receivable by the user equipment;  
creating a first list from the receivable neighbouring cells;  
determining a signal measurement for each receivable neighbouring cell;  
generating a user request message, wherein the user request message includes ~~a request for a multicast service and the first list of receivable neighbouring cells~~ a request for a multicast service, the first list of receivable neighbouring cells, and the signal measurement for each cell in the list of receivable neighbouring cells; and  
transmitting the user request message from the user equipment to the first base station.

36. (Previously presented): The method of claim 35, wherein creating a list from the receivable neighbouring cells includes:

determining whether the receivable signal is combinable by the user equipment; and  
including in the first list an indication of cells determined to be combinable.

37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently amended): A method to initiate a multicast service in a group of cells neighbouring a first cell, the method comprising:

transmitting a network message to initiate a response from a user equipment in the first cell;

receiving a user message transmitted by the user equipment positioned in the first cell;  
and

in response to the user message, initiating the multicast service in only the group of cells neighbouring the first cell.